

## ***CALL FOR APPLICATIONS***

### ***SUMMER 2012 STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTES***

#### ***A PROGRAM FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATORS***

The U.S. Embassy Public Affairs Section (PAS), Addis Ababa is responsible for recruiting and selecting qualified professionals to be part of this program. We are currently accepting applications for the **2012** academic year. The application deadline is December 15, 2011.

#### **1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

PAS is pleased to invite candidates for the summer 2012 Study of the United States Institutes for Secondary School Educators program to take place over the course of six weeks beginning in mid June. Two institute programs for secondary educators will be offered. One program will take place at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, MA, and the second program will take place at California State University, Chico, CA. The institute in Amherst, MA will host mainly secondary educators whose primary activities are classroom teaching while the institute in Chico, CA will host administrators (including teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, ministry of education officials, and others).

For this program, Secondary Educators include classroom teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, and ministry of education officials, among others. The Study of the United States Institutes for Secondary School Educators will provide two multinational groups of 30 secondary educators each, with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture, past and present. The programs will be organized around a central theme or themes in U.S. studies and will have a strong contemporary component. Through a combination of traditional, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary approaches, the programs will elucidate the history and evolution of U.S. educational institutions and values. The programs also serve to illuminate contemporary political, social, and economic debates in American society.

The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in secondary schools and other academic institutions abroad. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the program website obtain general information about the Institutes. The website address is: <http://exchanges.state.gov/academicexchanges/scholars.html>.

#### **2. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:**

Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and to complete assigned readings. Candidates should be made aware that this is an intensive institute and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program.

#### **3. CANDIDATE DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

A. Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and

experienced secondary school educators. The ideal candidate will be a secondary teacher, teacher trainer, curriculum developer, textbook writer, ministry of education official, or other related professional with responsibility for secondary education who is seeking to introduce or enhance aspects of U.S. studies into his/her curricula.

B. The ideal candidate will also be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to enhance and update existing courses that include information about the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for education professionals in U.S. studies or related fields. In this respect, while the nominee's professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance teachings and courses about the United States at the nominee's home institution, community, or country.

C. Candidates should be willing and able to take part fully in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. While senior educators are eligible applicants, consideration is given to mid-career professionals and to persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule.

#### **4. CANDIDATE STATEMENT:**

In order to get a better sense of potential participants' motivations and goals, PAS requests that each candidate provide a short personal statement (one page) indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience. In addition, candidate statements should describe the candidate's capacity/plans to amplify the impact of the institute beyond just their own knowledge and research. The applicant must declare the particular academic programs in which he is interested in focusing and should tailor his/her personal statement to the appropriate program in the application form. Bio data of the applicant should be attached to the personal statement.

#### **5. ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABILITY:**

It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the Institute, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

#### **6. PRIORITY CONSIDERATION:**

Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have no prior or limited experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties.

Please send your application to the attention of the Public Affairs Section of the Embassy. If you have any questions relating to the application process, please feel free to contact the U.S. Embassy Cultural Affairs Specialist Ato Yohannes Birhanu at [BirhanuY@state.gov](mailto:BirhanuY@state.gov). We look forward to receiving applications by December 15, 2011, and extend best wishes to all candidates!